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# Merrill Firefighter/Paramedic Jacob Aumann is pinned shortly before his one-year anniversary

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
 EDITOR

On Monday, July 12, Jacob Aumann was officially “pinned” in a Badge Pinning Ceremony outside the Merrill Fire Department.

Firefighter/Paramedic Aumann joined the Merrill Fire Family on July 20, 2020, following the retirement of Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Clabots, and became the 188th member of the Merrill Fire Department.

“Jacob brings a wealth of knowledge and life experience to the department,” Fire Chief Josh Klug said in a press release following Aumann’s hiring.

“Prior to starting with the Merrill Fire Department, Aumann most recently served the Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department. Before that, he was a member of the Plover Fire Department and the South Area Fire Emergency District. While Jacob has previous experience as a Firefighter/Paramedic, he also served as a police officer for the Spencer and Neillsville Police Departments. In addition to his service to local communities, Aumann has also served our country as an Infantryman in the Wisconsin Army National Guard [from 2012-2018]. Jacob even has previous experience as a music teacher before joining the protective service field.”



Fire Chief Josh Klug introduces speakers and recognizes Firefighter/Paramedic Jacob Aumann (seated) at his Badge Pinning Ceremony on July 12, 2021. **Tina L. Scott photo.**

“Firefighter/Paramedic Aumann is well qualified for his position as a State Certified Firefighter I & II, Wisconsin Licensed EMT – Paramedic, and Candidate Physical Ability Test certified. He also holds Incident Command System (ICS) 100, 200, 700 and 800 certifications. For additional EMS training, Aumann is ACLS, PALS, and PHTLS certified. Jacob received most of that training at Mid-State and NTC Technical Colleges. Prior to college, Aumann was a 2005 graduate of Neillsville High School,” he said. Following high school, Jacob attended Chippewa Valley Technical College to obtain his Associates Degree in Law Enforcement.

Klug explained the hiring process: “Jacob was the top candidate out of an original pool of 15 applications. This was a significant increase from the previous hiring process in 2019 which only yielded three applicants. With the high number of applicants, the Fire Department had to narrow down the field of viable candidates with an intensive selection process. The process included sorting the 15 applicants that were closest to meeting all of the qualifications of the position. After evaluating applications and resumes, eight applicants were selected for interviews with a Fire Department panel consisting of the Department’s four Battalion Chiefs, the local Union President, and the manager

See **AUMANN** page 14

# House fire in Merrill causes damage but no injuries

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
 EDITOR

Early the morning of Saturday, Oct. 16, the Merrill Fire Department responded to a house fire in the 1400 block of Cotter Ave. in the Southwest part of the city of Merrill. The Merrill Fire Department reports 63-Truck,

Engine-61, and Med-62 all responded immediately. Upon arrival, crews found heavy fire & deployed hand-lines to keep the house next door from starting on fire, the Fire Department said.

The Incident Commander requested mutual aid from Pine River Fire Department, Corning Fire Department, Russell Fire Department, and the City of Wausau Fire Department, as well as Tomahawk EMS.

Firefighters were eventually able to bring the fire under control, but not until after the home had experienced significant damage, Merrill Fire Department reported.

“Wisconsin Public Service, Merrill Police Department, & Merrill Water Utility also assisted on scene,” they

See **FIRE** page 6



Multiple Fire Departments and agencies responded to a house fire on Cotter Ave. in Merrill early Saturday morning, Oct. 16. **Photo courtesy of Merrill Fire Department.**

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Corporation (WEDC) regional partners. Businesses must apply through the partner organization for the region in which they are located. Applications are open through June 30, 2022.

Additional information about the Main Street Bounce Back Grants is available here: <https://wedc.org/programs-and-resources/mainstreet-bounceback-grants/>

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# LCHD offers flu shots for Lincoln County students at no charge

Lincoln County Health Department will hold flu clinics this fall for Lincoln County students

(grades 4K-12). "We are pleased to be able to offer this service at no charge for students

this school year," states Shelley Hersil, Health Officer/Director for LCHD. "Being able to save parents time and help keep kids healthy and in school is a benefit for all," she adds. An annual flu shot is the best way to prevent the flu and is recommended for everyone six months and older, Hersil said.

Remaining flu clinics for Lincoln County students are scheduled as follows:

- Prairie River Middle School (PRMS) Student Flu Clinic, Oct. 26, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. PRMS

Auditorium

- Lincoln County Youth Flu Clinic, Nov. 4, 4:00-5:00 p.m., Lincoln County Service Center

\*Students enrolled in 4K, elementary and private schools are encouraged to attend this clinic. All Lincoln County students are welcome.

- Tomahawk School District (TSD) Student Clinic, Nov. 9, 8:30-11:30 a.m., TSD Auditorium

This schedule is dependent on flu vaccine availability. Any changes in the schedule will be communicated to parent(s)/guardian(s).

LCHD has flu shots and flu nasal mist available for students. Pre-registration is required, no later than the day before the clinic at noon. Go to <http://bit.ly/3zMKa0A> to register. Walk-ins are not accepted. By completing the pre-registration form, parent(s)/guardian(s) are giving consent to LCHD to vaccinate their child with the flu vaccine while at school. Parent(s)/guardian(s) do not need to be present. Parents should have their child dress appropriately so their upper

arm is easily accessible the day of clinic. A face mask is required.

If you have questions or would like more information, contact LCHD at 715.536.0307 or [LHealth@co.lincoln.wi.us](mailto:LHealth@co.lincoln.wi.us). For more information about Lincoln County Health Department's programs and services, visit [lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com](http://lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com) or find us on Facebook.

Lincoln County Health Department is always working for a safer and healthier Lincoln County.

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<b>Cranberries</b> \$2.50 lb. Buy 20 lbs. or more for \$199 lb.	<b>Assorted Squash</b> 49¢ lb.
<b>All Beef Summer Sausage</b> \$2.49 lb. \$24 a cs. (12 - 12oz.)	<b>Sunforce Health and Organics</b> <b>Respiratin Breathe Free</b> \$15.99 8 oz.
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## 2021 Harvest Festival

On Wednesday, Oct. 27, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., the New Testament Church on the corner of Hillside Dr. and County Rd. K in Merrill will once again host their annual Harvest Festival "to celebrate the abundance of blessings we've all received," organizers say. "It will be a fun and safe environment for children ages 2 through 11 to enjoy lots of exciting games, face painting, a costume contest with prizes, and, of course, lots of candy. So come on out, rain or shine, and have a great time with family and friends at this year's Harvest Festival," they said.

Admission is one bag of candy.

Please use the lower level entrance off Hillside Dr. In order to focus on good and positive things, please, no evil image costumes, organizers ask.

## St. Mary's holds Fall Rummage Sale Fundraiser

St. Mary's Church in Tomahawk will hold their Fall Rummage Sale Fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Corpus Christi Center of the Church. Please enter from the 7th Street parking lot.

MERRILL FOTO NEWS

## Student of the Week

This Week's Featured Student is  
**Brady Krueger**  
Son of  
**Brad and Michelle Krueger**  
Brady is in the 4th Grade at Washington Elementary School. He was nominated by Mrs. Hass.

**What is your favorite subject in school? Why?**  
My favorite subject in school is math. My entire family is great at math and I am proud of being smart and working hard. I like the challenge of figuring out problems and puzzles.

**What is your favorite part of school? Why?**  
During the school day, I enjoy recess and gym class. I enjoy these times because I am able to talk to friends and be active. They are great times to make new friends and help others.

**What would you like to do/become someday? Why?**  
I want to be a John Deere salesman because my family owns a farm and because my uncle works at John Deere. I love to be outside and this job will help me do that.

Brady is an extremely kind and caring student. He works hard and strives to do his best at all times. He is a great role model for his classmates and is always compassionate to others. He is focused on his learning and will change the world one day.  
- Mrs. Hass

Student of the Week Sponsored by:  
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## HALLOWEEN LUMINARY

October 22, 2021 6:30-8:30pm  
October 23, 2021 6:30-8:30pm  
Prairie River Trail

Family Friendly walk filled with jack-o-lanterns, mason jars, and luminary bags. Free will donation at entrance. Proceeds go to benefit Connie Gulke's battle with stage 2 breasts cancer.

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# Oct. 12 Merrill Common Council meeting updates

## Marketing Merrill, shipping containers, Pine Ridge development, and protecting freedoms as it relates to vaccination

BY DAVID JOHNSON  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

The Merrill Common Council met on Oct. 12 in the Council Chamber in City Hall.

### Council approves Vision, Mission, and Values for City of Merrill marketing and re-branding

Among the items on the Agenda was a recommendation for approval of the marketing and branding initiative from the [new] Marketing & Communications Committee to market and re-brand Merrill. This initiative includes new Vision, Mission, and Value statements for the City. These are:

**Vision** - Merrill will be recognized as a welcoming city with a safe and diverse community, vibrant and sustainable economy, and a comfortable quality of life for all.

**Mission** - To enrich quality of life through innovation, consistent and efficient City services, and strong partnerships with citizens, businesses, and key stakeholders.

**Values** -  
• **Partnership:** Work together to get things done in a collaborative and respectful manner  
• **Integrity:** Act with transparency and be accountable for what we do and say.

• **Service:** Provide professional, respectful service to those who live, work, or visit.

• **Sustainability:** Make decisions with an understanding of their impact on the environment, people, community, and finances.

• **Diversity & Inclusion:** Embrace the traits and characteristics that make people unique and provide a sense of belonging and support within our community.

This recommendation was approved unanimously by the Council. In today's economic, social, and political environment it is essential for cities to market



Picasa

themselves and communicate with citizens. Much more will be forthcoming from the Marketing & Communications Committee.

### Shipping container/semi-trailer ordinance

The Council passed an ordinance amendment (Chapter 113, Article XI Sections 113-117) related to accessory structures. The main focus was on the use of shipping containers and semi-trailers. The main addition to the ordinance reads:

"Shipping Containers, Semi-Trailers, or Similar Structures. Shipping Containers, semitrailers, or similar structures are permitted as storage facilities in an industrial District only. Shipping containers, semi-trailers, or similar structures are permitted as temporary storage facilities in a Business or Thoroughfare Commercial District by Conditional Use or for a maximum of 30 days in a 12 month period. Shipping Containers, semi-trailers, or similar structures are prohibited in Residential Districts or residential use properties. A special exception may be given by the Zoning Administrator for storage purposes for moving or permitted property renovation for a maximum of 30 days. The Zoning Administrator may extend the timeframe upon request of the property owner for special circumstances. Shipping Containers, semi-trailers, or similar structures may not be modified or used for any other purpose than

temporary storage. Any person or business that intends to place a Shipping Container, semi-trailer, or similar structure on a property must register it with the zoning department prior to such placement and pay the applicable fees."

### Amendment to Housing Authority Commission membership referred to Committee of the Whole

A second ordinance amendment dealing with membership on the Merrill Area Housing Authority Commission (Chapter 2, Article VI, Section 2-143) was referred to a future Committee of the Whole meeting. This amendment would allow two members of the MAHA Commission to be non-residents of the City so long as they own a business in the City or are employed by a business in the City. The amendment also allows for two Housing Authority tenants to serve as non-voting advisors on the MAHA Commission.

### Pine Ridge Shopping Center development

Two resolutions were addressed by the Council. The first of these was a resolution authorizing a development agreement between the City and the owners of Merrill Pine Ridge Shopping Center. This agreement would provide funds for repairs to facilitate the sale of the former Piggly-Wiggly property to a retail entity. It would provide an incentive for the conversion of the former Walmart to be converted to three retail spaces as Church Mutual's lease on this property expires on March 30, and they do not intend to renew the lease. This development agreement will maintain the viability of this property from a tax base, employment, and shopping opportunity perspective. The development agreement further provides for the 2-acre outlot east of the car wash to be

purchased by the City for future development. This resolution was passed by the Council.

### Resolution to protect City employees' freedom to choose pertaining to vaccination

The second resolution pertained to what was titled as "A resolution protecting the constitutional rights and freedoms of the City of Merrill employees against an unconstitutional COVID-19 vaccine mandate and encouraging city contractors and local employers to do the same." The resolution reads in part: "NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 12th day of October, 2021, that the City of Merrill employees will not be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. Furthermore, no City of Merrill employee will be threatened, coerced or advised in any manner into receiving or accepting the COVID-19 vaccination;"

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Merrill strongly

See COUNCIL page 6

### Pet of the Week



Hi my name is **Lady**. I'm looking for my forever home. I was brought to the shelter because my family could no longer care for me. I can be a little shy at first but would really like a new family to love. I would do best in a home being the only pet. My adoption fee has been sponsored so I am FREE to adopt with an approved application. Come in to meet me today!

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Julie Schulz



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## Merrill Area United Way



## GIVE • ADVOCATE • VOLUNTEER

October 2021  
Merrill Area United Way  
Dee Olsen, Executive Director

Working families have many struggles with children in school, and mixed working schedules for two parents, and then there are the single parent families. All these scheduling and childcare issues can get very complicated for many parents trying to ensure they have quality childcare. This past spring United Way received a call from a school counselor who was trying to help a single father find childcare for his son during the summer. He was declined through a few of his pursuits. The subject of limited childcare and the issues this presents was brought to the forefront at our annual United Way Board planning session. United Way has since been organizing the Childcare Coalition.

Finding quality childcare is not just a parental issue, but it has implications for companies and corporations who are trying to fill their workforce needs. They know that working parents need childcare. Overall, lack of childcare has deeper ramifications for the local economy. Also note it is not a problem isolated to Merrill; it is true in almost every part of the country. There is a shortage of quality childcare providers, so the Merrill community should be eager to build our own local childcare base. To augment the limited number of childcare centers, we feel there is an opportunity to provide support to people who want to get into this field and do in-home childcare. There are many resources to get started through the Childcaring, Inc. organization. They offer Virtual Start-Up Information Sessions. They can work with providers to get certified and licensed, and then direct providers to Start-Up Grants. Eligible providers have used these funds for equipment, materials, fencing, safety gates, and other safety equipment. Although located in Mosinee, they service ten counties, including Lincoln. Visit [www.childcaring.org](http://www.childcaring.org).

While we have only held four coalition meetings so far, the dialogues have been helpful and fruitful. Represented on the Coalition are Childcaring, Inc., Parkside Preschool Center, Trinity Childcare, St. John's Childcare, City of Merrill, United Way, T B Scott Library, Pine River Young Learners, and UW Extension. Working with our local childcare facilities, the Coalition has been enlightened by the vast information each participant brings to the meetings. As a group, we will continue to evaluate Merrill's needs and look for additional ways to grow the availability of childcare services in our area.

To conclude, we are reminding the public the United Way campaign runs through mid-November. This financial support comes from individuals, families, retirees, and companies. Although the campaign seems to be off to a little slower start, we are hoping to sustain the same level of giving as the prior year, allowing us to support our 19 funded agencies. Please give generously and help your neighbors, family, and friends. **All donated dollars stay local.** United Way cares and is driven to make a positive difference in the Merrill area. To donate send checks to Merrill Area United Way, at P. O. Box 813, Merrill 54452. Our website is [www.merrillareaunderway.org](http://www.merrillareaunderway.org) where Pay Pal donations can now be made. For further information email us at [Delores.Olsen@merrillareaunderway.org](mailto:Delores.Olsen@merrillareaunderway.org); or call our part-time office at 715-536-2016.

**OBITUARIES**



**Gregory "Greg" Allan Heath, 75**, of Merrill, Wisconsin passed away on October 11, 2021 with his family at his side. He was born on November 6, 1945 to Duane and Ruth (Boettcher) Heath in Merrill, Wisconsin.

After graduating high school in 1963, Greg enlisted in the Air Force and served in the Vietnam War. He was honorably discharged in 1967. On May 7, 1988, he married Judy Zimmerman at St. Stephen's United Church of Christ in Merrill, WI. Together they raised two sons, Ryan and Doug. Greg and Judy enjoyed attending various sporting events the boys participated in and continued to attend when Ryan competed in college and into his current coaching career. When Doug began racing quads, Greg took on the role of pit crew for all his races. Throughout his career Greg worked as a mechanic at both the Ford garage and Willie's Tire in Merrill before becoming a machine operator at Wausau Paper for 23 years. After retiring from the mill, he followed in his Dad's footsteps and was a school bus driver for Wendorf Bussing.

Greg loved hunting, fishing, gardening, and playing solitaire and other games with family. He was dedicated to his family and extremely proud of his boys. He loved the many Springer Spaniels he raised over the years and will be dearly missed by his current dog Gus. A few additional hobbies were racing cars in Texas with his brother Del, and after returning to Merrill being involved in a bowling league.

Greg was a hardworking, persistent man who will be dearly missed.

Greg is survived by his wife Judy Heath, sons: Ryan Heath and Doug (Molly) Heath, siblings: Patricia (Dan) Woller, Delbert Heath, Cherie (Robert) Kultgen, Nancy (Terry) Kasper, and Jeffrey (Sherry) Heath, sister-in-law Terri (Terry) Sukow and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents Duane and Ruth Heath, father and mother-in-law Edgar and Kathryn Zimmerman, and brother-in-law Dale Zimmerman.

A visitation for Greg will be on Monday, October 18, 2021 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Waid Funeral Home and again on Tuesday, from 9:00 am until the time of service, also at the funeral home. The funeral service will be on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 11:00 am at Waid Funeral Home. Interment to take place at Merrill Memorial Park.

Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at [www.waidfuneral.com](http://www.waidfuneral.com).



**Chelsey Dale Dempsey** of Merrill was called to his heavenly home on October 8th, 2021. Dale, as he liked to be called, also resided in Appleton, Milwaukee and Polar, Wisconsin. His loving family will carry his memories forever.

Dale was born on November 27, 1931 in Urania, LA to the late Dewit Devoe Dempsey and Flora Ena Dempsey. Dale resided in Winnfield, LA and later moved to Beaumont, TX. In the early years, his family homesteaded land near the Kasatchie National Forest. Dale had many stories to tell of the adventures of living off the land and of his family's construction of a log cabin on the land they were homesteading. His mother passed away when he was 9 years of age, and he was then raised by extended family members.

Dale felt a call to enter the ministry as early as age 12. He pursued this calling by attending Apostolic Bible Institute, St. Paul MN, from 1951 to 1954. He then pastored churches in Prescott, MN, Marinette, WI, White Lake, WI and Appleton, WI from 1955-1977. He worked at Badger Northland in Kaukauna from 1966-1982. Dale was a Christian School Administrator in Neenah and Milwaukee, WI.

Dale was known for his Bible study teaching both in the church setting and in private homes. Only eternity will reveal the many souls that were affected by Dale's teaching. Dale loved to read and watch educational films. He could often be seen carrying his newspaper with him.

Dale and his wife Gerrie displayed their love for children both in the Christian School setting and by their care of the 34 foster children they brought into their home. Many of the children stayed for an extended time, and still consider them "Grandma and Grandpa".

Dale was preceded in death by his first wife, Jean Ann (McKinnon) Dempsey, and a brother, Ronald. Also, a son in law, Jeffery Shilts, brother in law, Donald McKinnon, sisters in law, Dorothy Dempsey and Madeline McKinnon, and great-grand daughters, Lily Helgestad and Lydia Marie Zornow.

Dale is survived by his wife Geraldine Dempsey, four children: Glenna (Richard) Frazier of Racine, Brenda (Scott) Huse of Merrill, Kevin (Mary Jo) Dempsey of Appleton and Kelly (Leslie) Dempsey of Appleton, three step children; John (Vicky) Haubrich of Brillion, Linda (Jim) Moses of Janesville, Michael (Shannon) Haubrich of Texas, 19 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Dale will be greatly missed by his family and friends. His life was honored and remembered at the funeral services held at Apostolic Truth Church, 2720 Kesting Ct., Appleton on Saturday, October 16th, 2021 at 1pm. A visitation took place at 12pm. A visitation also was held at Valley Funeral Home, 2211 N. Richmond St. Appleton, from 4-8pm Friday, October 15th, 2021. Internment at Bovina Cemetery in Shiocton, Wisconsin.

**Chad Barton.** The good Lord called Chad Barton to join his dad, grandparents and multi cousins and other family members on October 17, 2021. He was born August 11, 1972 in Merrill, WI. He had a short bout of cancer that took his young life. The last three years he resided in Chippewa Falls, WI.

His dad, Larry Barton preceded him in death. He is survived by his mother, Marilyn Barton and brother Brad Barton. Chad thought the world of his brother and referred to him as a great man. Chad was a wonderful person. As every family says about their loved ones "So truly missed every day."

A special thank you to Christy Lussier and staff at CBS, Helping Hands and St. Joe's Hospice and many others. Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at [www.waidfuneral.com](http://www.waidfuneral.com).



**Janis M. Elliott "Jimmy"**, age 89, passed away peacefully surrounded by family following a brief illness on Monday, October 11, 2021, at Brewster Village in Appleton, WI. She was born on May 20, 1932, in Merrill, WI, the daughter of the late Joseph and Esther (Sell) Fredette. Janis was united in marriage to Captain Bernard Elliott on January 27, 1951. He preceded her in death in 1986.

Janis raised ten children and prayed the Rosary often. She was a good cook and loved to knit for her children. Janis loved to be surrounded by her kids, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was an avid Green Bay Packers and Milwaukee Brewers fan. She loved her fresh flowers and collecting rosaries, nativity scenes and cardinal bird figurines.

Janis is survived by her children: Michael (Marilyn) Elliott of Sequim, WA; Susan (Charles) Jalette of Appleton; Charles (Debra) Elliott of Appleton; Julie (Jerry) Sajbel of Fort Mill, SC; Kristine "Tina" Tibbens of Appleton; Kathleen "Kate" Pulido of New London; and Matthew Elliott of Appleton; 26 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren. Brothers-in-law: Albert (Pam) Elliott of Juneau AK; James Elliott of Montague, TX; and Lloyd (Jan) Pukis of South Dakota; and a sister-in-law, Ruth Ann Littlefield (Edward) of Geneva, IL. She is further survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Janis was preceded in death by her parents; in-laws, Paul and Dola Pukis; daughter, Mary Retzlaff; two sons, Bernie and Kevin Elliott; sons-in-law, Robert Retzlaff, Sr., Ron Jalette, Carl Tibbens, and Rick Pulido; granddaughter Samantha Elliott; a sister, Joyce Elliott; brothers-in-law, Paul Pukis and Bill Elliott and a sister-in-law Dorothy Wright.

A Funeral Mass for Janis was held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 18, 2021, at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church, New London with Fr. John Kleinschmidt officiating. Burial was in the Most Precious Blood Cemetery, New London.

For those loved ones who were unable to travel to be with us to celebrate Janis's life, the mass will be available to view at [www.clinehansonfuneralhome.com](http://www.clinehansonfuneralhome.com)

The family would like to extend a special thank you to staff, caregivers, and Janis's friends at Oak Ridge Gardens in Menasha, as well as all staff, caregivers, and friends at Brewster Village in Appleton. A special thank you goes to Janis's dear friend, Geri, and her special caregivers Ricky (Felix), all of whom she picked on daily. A final thank you goes to ThedaCare Hospice, including Christina, Melissa, and Joan for their dedicated and loving care of Janis.

Mom, I know you were ready to go but I wasn't ready for you to go. I will miss our little rides and all the days we spent together. Please watch over me and my family. Give Carl, Dad, Mary, Bernie and Kevin a big hug from me. Until we meet again, Love, Tina

Mom, You have once again joined the choir. The celestial choir of heavenly angels. I can already hear the sweet sound of your voice. Amidst the thousands of angelic voices your voice will always stand out. I don't know why the good Lord handed you such a plate full, but you didn't flinch and met everything head-on. You had the strength of a lion and passed it on to all your kids. I was, am and always will be proud to be your daughter and call you Mom. To the moon and back. Love, Susan

Dear Mama, YOU were my rock! When we talked your wisdom rang through with sound advice. Some of your favorites - "When it comes to your children you have to pick your battles." "Life is so short, just get over it!" "God works in mysterious ways "My heart is in pieces, I miss you so much already, God made his decision and I know you are at peace. I will think of you every day with a smile on my face, you were the best! Love Julie

Mom, the strongest woman I know, the matriarch of our family. I will miss you, more than words can express. I will take with me all the knowledge and wisdom you shared. Thank you for always being there for me! And teaching me how to make gravy. I love you and I will miss you. May your Harbor Lights always shine! Love Kate

Cline & Hanson Funeral Home, 209 W. Cook St., New London. 920-982-3232 [www.clinehansonfuneralhome.com](http://www.clinehansonfuneralhome.com)

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**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OCTOBER 4, 2021**  
Girl, Emma Renee, born to Sarah Blum and Nathanael Blum of Merrill.

**OCTOBER 8, 2021**  
Girl, Lilly May, born to Tiffany Trussell and Lukas Long of Merrill.  
Boy, Lincoln Todd, born to Allison Ress and Dakota Ress of Merrill.

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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM**

Pine River Town Hall  
N1647 Deer Run Avenue

Take Hwy. 64 East to Deer Run Ave. Turn Right on Deer Run to N1647  
Questions: Call 715-966-3545

**MASKS REQUIRED**

OBITUARIES



**Jean Ann Catlin (Nee Kleinschmidt)**, age 88, passed away peacefully at Pine Crest Nursing Home under the care of her family and Aspirus Hospice Services.

She was born in Merrill on March 23, 1933, to Wilbert and Dora Kleinschmidt. She married Jerome J Catlin on 12/22/1951 in the church where she was baptized and confirmed, St Stephens United Church of Christ, Merrill. Jean was employed at several local factories in her lifetime with

her retirement ending at Fox Point Sportswear. The job she loved the most was taking care of her children, grandchildren, and her other "grands", Hugh, Keary, Madi and EJ. She had many other families too, including pool, cards and camping families. She loved shooting pool, playing cards with her friends, crocheting, camping and painting ceramics.

She is survived by three daughters, Sharon Waldburger, TN, Sandra Krueger, Athens, Sue Rambis (Eric) of Kenosha; two sons, David and Daren (Sue) Catlin of Merrill and daughter-in-law Diana Catlin of Merrill; One sister, Darlene (Jeff) Hanig of Merrill; 9 grandchildren, Jay, Daniel, Veronica, Anna, Kory, Jennifer, Claire, Tyler and Michael; 7 great grandchildren, Megan, Shyanne, Caitlyn, Brianna, Devon, Alyssa, Jaxon and 3 great-great grandchildren Korie, Liam, Leia and Gunner, expected in December, 2021. She also has many cousins, nieces, nephews, and close friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, baby brother Leroy; husband of 58 years, Jerome in 2008; her son Daniel in 2011 and her son-in-law Jeff in 2020.

Funeral services for Jean were at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill. The Rev. Mike Southcombe will officiate. Visitation was from 12 Noon until the time of the service at the funeral home.

Taylor Stine Funeral Home and Cremation Services is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com).

Jean's family would like to thank the staff at Aspirus Hospice and Pine Crest for the care and devotion to her, especially Al and Ashley in the Special Care Unit.



**Jeffrey T. Stevens**, age 60, loving husband, father, son and brother, passed away Wednesday, October 13, 2021, and awaits the resurrection to eternal life in God's family. He was born on September 8, 1961, the third son of Jerry and Shirley Stevens. He married Linda Strelow on March 7, 1987.

His life was dedicated to his family and church. His family meant everything to him, and he loved them dearly. He was a deacon in God's church and telling the world of the hope for mankind was his purpose in life. He loved to serve the members of the church.

He was self-employed his whole life and owned several businesses from the age of 17. He was the proud owner of AquaCraft manufacturing pontoon boats. He was an inventor and held a patent. He could do anything he put his mind to. He was a professional baker, and it gave him much pleasure to make his delicious bakery for his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife: Linda, son: Jacob (Dominique) Stevens, daughter: Kelsey Jo Stevens, mother: Shirley Stevens, brother: Brian (Sheryl) Stevens, nephews: Connor and Tyler Stevens, niece: Cheyenne Hancock, great niece: Kristen Jessie, and special daughter: Iris, his little one. He was preceded in death by his father: Jerry M. Stevens and brother: Jerry A. Stevens.

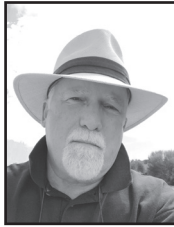
A memorial service will be held at a later date. Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at [www.waidfuneral.com](http://www.waidfuneral.com).

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

How Much Is Enough?

Dear Reader,

We always seem to be striving for more. In some ways, it's a good thing. The more we work, the more wealth we generate for ourselves and our families.



But is there such a thing as accumulating too much? Is there a point when we have more than we know what to do with or how to handle? How much land, money and power does one person have to have to live a happy life? Is there a law of diminishing returns?

Nowadays it seems that many people are caught up in the moment and avoid the thought of an inevitable death. Many seem fixated on how much they can contribute to their 401k accounts for retirement. What about fixating on how much we can contribute to our 401k for the afterlife?

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
PUBLISHER

Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"

Letter to the Editor

In response to Jeffrey Krall's letter

People like you do not have a clue about freedom or of leadership. You think you can do whatever you want like going without a mask or getting the vaccine because it might infringe on your freedom. What about other people's freedom to live in a safe environment. You and people like you put everyone else in jeopardy. And if God or Jesus were here today he would advise everyone to wear [sic] a mask and get the vaccine because he loved everyone not just the selfish or the self righteous. A good leader has a hard choice to make for all. Masks work and so does the vaccines [sic]. Did you know that vaccines were mandated for the cure of polio and it worked. School children need to be vaccinated [sic] before they go to school so get the vaccine and wear [sic] the mask. They work.

And if you want to worry about something worry about Trump he is the Anti Christ. Freedom isn't always free.

- Richard Kotschi, Merrill, Wis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

\* Letters must be 250 words or less (There will be no exceptions to this. Any letter longer than 250 words will not be printed.)  
\* All letters must include full name, address and phone number of the composer. Phone numbers and addresses will not be published, but will be used for verification purposes if necessary.  
\* Letters will be published at the discretion of the Editor. While letters on most any topic will be published, any letters deemed derogatory, inflammatory, slanderous, or involving vulgar language, will not be published.  
\* Letters will be published on a "first come, first served" basis. Any letters which we are unable to publish in the printed newspaper will be run online at [www.merrillfotonews.com](http://www.merrillfotonews.com) and may be printed in the paper at a later date if possible.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legals 7700

**BY THE COURT:**  
**DATE SIGNED: October 11, 2021**  
Electronically signed by  
Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar

**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY**  
**Notice to Creditors**  
**(Informal Administration)**  
Case No. 2021 IN 45

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
Brian J. Kingsley

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 11/19/1970 and date of death 09/09/2021, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of WI, with a mailing address of N2717 E. Shore Dr., Merrill, WI 54452.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 28, 2022.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.  
Sarah Ross  
1717 Plover St.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
715-340-4561  
Published Oct. 14, 21 & 28, 2021  
WNAXLP

**CITY OF MERRILL**  
1004 EAST FIRST STREET  
MERRILL, WI 54452

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

All persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard at a public hearing to be held by and before the City Plan Commission of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, commencing at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1004 East First Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the following proposed matter, to wit:

**To attend remotely, Phone: 352-720-0128, PIN 566 134 413 #**

1.) Public hearing on a Conditional Use for placement of Shipping Containers per M.M.C. Sec. 113-317(n) located at Wal Mart, 505 S Pine Ridge Ave, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. Legally described in tax# 251-3107-172-0004.

Anyone having any questions regarding the hearing should contact Zoning Administrator, Darin Pagel at 536-4880.  
Dated: October 18, 2021  
CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN

Legals 7700

City Clerk  
Published Oct. 21 & 28, 2021  
WNAXLP

**DATE SIGNED:** September 29, 2021  
Electronically signed by  
Kim Uttech, Register in Probate  
Probate Registrar

**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**CIRCUIT COURT,**  
**MARATHON COUNTY**  
**Notice Setting Time to Hear**  
**Application and Deadline**  
**for Filing Claims**  
**(Informal Administration)**  
Case No. 21-IN-133

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
James S. Schullt

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth August 19, 1974 and date of death September 12, 2021 was domiciled in Marathon County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 14941 N. 4th Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452.
3. The application will be heard at the Marathon County Courthouse, Wausau, Wisconsin, Room Probate, before Kim Uttech, Probate Registrar, on November 10, 2021 at 9AM.

**You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.**

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 5, 2022.

5. A claim may be filed at the Marathon County Courthouse, Wausau, Wisconsin, Room Probate.

6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or address are unknown.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

Attorney Katherine A. Young  
Anderson O'Brien, LLP  
1257 Main Street, P.O. Box 228  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
(715) 344-0890 Bar Number 1087888  
Published Oct. 7, 14 & 21, 2021  
WNAXLP

Town of Birch Chat Cemetery

Notice for Fall Clean-up

All decorations must be removed by  
**Monday, November 1, 2021** for Fall Clean-up.  
May resume after November 8, 2021  
Only **three** decorations per gravesite,  
absolutely **NO GLASS** of any kind, they will be removed.

Thank you,  
Margo Pophal  
Sexton of Chat Cemetery

Published October 21, 2021

WNAXLP

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Town of Birch will be accepting bids for:

1. 1,000 cubic yards of crushed gravel 1" to 1 1/4" thickness.  
700 yds. to be delivered to David Road  
300 yds. to be delivered to Loop
2. 500 cubic yards of crushed gravel 3/4" thickness to be delivered to Horseshoe Lake Road.
3. 300 cubic yards of crushed rotten granite to be delivered to various roads throughout the Town of Birch.

Please respond by written/sealed bid by October 25, 2021 on or before 11:00AM at the Birch Town Hall, W4762 Cty. Hwy. H, Irma, WI. 54442

For further information contact:  
Chairman David Fox at 715-218-3690

The Town of Birch reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids based on the best interest of the Township.

Published October 21, 2021

WNAXLP

TOWN OF MERRILL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING & SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 a **PUBLIC HEARING** on the Proposed 2022 Budget will be held at 6:00 P.M., at The Town of Merrill Community Center, W4594 Progress Avenue. The Proposed Budget is posted and is available for inspection at the Clerk's Office, W4594 Progress Avenue, during regular office hours.

Following completion of the Public Hearing on the Proposed 2022 Budget, the **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORS** called pursuant to Sec. 60.12(1)(c) of Wis. Statutes by the Town Board for the following purposes will be held:

1. To Adopt the 2021 Town Tax Levy To Be Paid In 2022, Pursuant to Sec. 60.10 (1) (a) of Wis. Statutes
2. Set Wages for Elected Town Officers Serving as Town Employees, Pursuant to Sec. 60.10(1)(g)
3. Set Compensation of Elective Town Offices, Pursuant to Sec. 65.90
4. Discuss Reducing the Town Board Size to 3

The regular Monthly Board Meeting will be held following completion of the above meetings.

Kay Tautges, Clerk-Treasurer

RECYCLE

[www.townofmerrill.net](http://www.townofmerrill.net)

RECYCLE

Published October 21, 2021

WNAXLP

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Merrill Foto News, its publishers, Editor, or staff.

To the Editor:

Gerrymandering

Elbridge Gerry, governor of Massachusetts in 1812, was the first elected official, who unfairly divided his state's voting areas, to benefit his political party, and thus, we have the word: "Gerrymandering." where the political party in power draws voting district lines to their advantage. The redistricting that was done in 2011 in Wisconsin, behind closed doors, is often used as one of the worst examples of Gerrymandering in United States history. Following the 2020 census, legislative maps will again be redrawn in Wisconsin. Please telephone our state representatives: (Mary Felzkowski, telephone number 608.266.2509, and Calvin Callahan, telephone number 608.266.7694), and ask them to follow the advice and recommendations of the People's Map Commission, which will draw congressional, senate, and state legislative district maps. This commission is non-partisan and thus has no inherent bias towards a political party. Maps drawn by this commission will put an end to Gerrymandering.

Furthermore, please ask our state representatives to have the non-partisan forming of voting districts put into our Wisconsin State Constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

- Catherine G. LeMay-Brown, Merrill, Wis.

Dear Editor,

My name is Theresa Monti. I am the new manager of St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Merrill. You can follow us on Facebook for our specials and ads. I would like to graciously thank our loyal customers for waiting patiently for us to be able to open our doors to earn more money for our continued support of our Outreach Programs. We thank you for all your donations and support.

To get the ball rolling, we are happy to announce the store will be open every Thursday and Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and the first Saturday in November from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will be adding longer hours and days in the near future.

We are taking large donations by appointment every Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. A limit of 5 bags or boxes, please. We are in great need of men's clothing, tools, and sports items. No summer items, dishes, or glassware are accepted at this time.

We are also in need of volunteers to move furniture and lift boxes from the warehouse. You can contact the store Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at 715.539.1131.

My hopes and prayers are for this store to be a success once again. It serves a greater purpose than just as a thrift store. I thank all the volunteers that have come forth to help our community in so many different ways. What a great team!

Thank you and welcome everyone.

- Theresa Monti

SVDP Thrift Store Manager, Merrill, Wis.

# Girl Scouts learn car care basics at local businesses



**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

Girl Scout Troop 7074 kicked off their year with a meeting on Sept. 14 focused on car care. The Troop, made up of 6th through 12th graders, first went to Bob's West 64 on Highway 64 in Merrill to learn some of the basics. They learned where to find the car's manual and how to troubleshoot a few things using the manual, including where to find the car's spare tire and jack, where the dipstick for checking the oil is located, and where the windshield washer fluid reservoir is located.

Then they actually did some of the basics, all hands on, including learning how to check the oil and how to add oil and windshield washer fluid if needed. They jacked up a car and located and pulled out the spare. "They got their hands dirty and changed a tire," Troop Leader Angela Smith said.

From there, they traveled to the Cenex Pier 2 station at the corner of Pier and 2nd Streets, to learn how to properly fill an automobile's gas tank



Girl Scouts learn how to study a car's manual and to locate the jack and spare tire. **Submitted photos.**



Girl Scouts each take a turn learning to operate a gas pump to fuel up a car.

safely and discussed key safety factors. "They each tried their hand at filling up a car," Smith said.

"Everyone had fun and learned a lot," she said.

"It's never too late to join Girl Scouts, and

there are openings at all levels for girls and adults," Smith added. To learn more about joining Girl Scouts, call Jessica Murray at [jmurray@gsnwgl.org](mailto:jmurray@gsnwgl.org) or call 920.955.3459.



The blaze was ultimately extinguished and no injuries were reported. No one was home at the time of the fire. **Photo courtesy of Merrill Fire Department.**

## FIRE from page 1

said.

"No one was home at the time of fire, and no one was injured," the

Department confirms.

The cause of the blaze remains under investigation; however, the Merrill Fire Department said it is not believed to be suspicious or intentional.

## COUNCIL from page 3

encourages all City contractors and all City of Merrill employers to respect the constitutional rights and freedoms of their employees and not require

COVID-19 vaccinations as a condition of their employment."

This refers to the concept of making employment contingent upon employees receiving COVID-19 vaccine. The Council passed the resolution by a 5/3 vote.



Merrill High School Class of 1971 celebrates their 50th Reunion.

**Photo by Carol Ellenbecker Willis and Steve Willis.**

# MHS Class of 1971 holds 50th Reunion

**BY KAREN BIRNBAUM KAROW**

The 50th Reunion of the Merrill High School Class of 1971 was held Aug. 27-29, 2021. Festivities included a get together at Kathy and Cal's Club 64 on Friday night, where approximately 40 people attended, some who would be unable to attend the following day. On Saturday morning, a table was set up at Normal Park, where Katie English Krause handed out information about Merrill things to do and see while visiting. A golf outing also took place Saturday morning at Merrill Golf Club.

On Saturday afternoon, the reunion got its "official" start at the Eagles Club in Merrill. Carol Ellenbecker Willis and Steve Willis set up a photography studio, capturing pictures of all attendees as they arrived. They also captured pictures of the evening, including this group picture. Dinner and drinks followed, including an engraved glass me-

mento for all guests, in which was served vintage wine from their era. In all, 178 classmates, teachers and their spouses attended – an outstanding turnout!

Class memorabilia and a memorial board were on display, decorated rocks ["Class of 1971 Rocks" and "50 Years"] were placed on the tables and in the rock beds outside. The Eagles was decked out with Merrill High colors, table decorations, and a lovely cake.

The Committee received many compliments on the event. Committee members, including Chris Malm, Debbie Zahn Stadler-Gapko, Gale Jankowsky-Wolff, Linda Frederick Weege, Clark Callahan, Norm Hanson, Karen Birnbaum Karow, Nancy Heath Kasper, Peg Geiss Brown, Barb JirovecTorgerson, and Sue Fehlberg Kunkel, all said it truly was a labor of love.

To browse more photos, go to the Class of 1971, Merrill High Facebook page.

# Aspirus Health hosts welcome celebration at Good Samaritan Hospital

Good Samaritan Hospital in Merrill was one of seven hospital locations to formally celebrate joining Aspirus Health during a welcome event on Monday, Sept. 13.

Hospital and Clinic leaders joined with employees and community partners as part of a systemwide celebration for the 7 hospitals, 21 clinics, air and ground transport services, and 2,700 colleagues who became part of the Aspirus system on Aug. 1.

"It has been nearly six weeks since the Good Samaritan team joined Aspirus, and we are all very excited about the excellent, compassionate care our new 'blended family' offers this great community," said Bob Smith, President of Good Samaritan. "The growth we celebrate today enables us to provide unparalleled care, with more coordination and more convenience, to thousands more people in the rural communities that make this region so special."

The name of Good Samaritan and the former Ascension Wisconsin clinics serving the area will remain the same for the immediate future, although on site signs now indicate that they have joined Aspirus Health. Ultimately, facility names will be changed to reflect the Aspirus brand. By Dec. 2021, all signs and materials will reflect the new Aspirus facility names.

"This hospital has been caring for Merrill and its neighboring communities and generations of families have entrusted their health – and their lives – to the medical professionals within these walls," said Cheryl Leininger, Director of Nursing at Good Samaritan. "Throughout our long, wonderful history, we have seen many changes like medical and technological innovations, affiliation changes, renovations, expansions, and so much more. Every advancement has enhanced the healing care that we are privileged to provide to the people who need us."



Representatives for Ascension, Aspirus, Bell Tower, and the City of Merrill join in planting a tree to represent the Aspirus commitment to the Merrill community. **Tina L. Scott photo.**



Bob Smith, President of Good Samaritan, speaks at the celebration event. **Submitted photo.**

Kris McCarigle, Executive Director/Administrator at Bell Tower Residence, also spoke words of welcome to Aspirus, their new neighbor. And Dave Johnson, City Administrator, welcomed Aspirus to the community on behalf of the City of Merrill.

The event concluded with a tree planting ceremony at each of the locations, to serve as a symbol of the commitment to grow and thrive with the Merrill community. The tree was planted with 10 symbolic jars of soil representing the 10 legacy Aspirus hospitals welcoming the 7 new hospitals to the Aspirus Health family. The Merrill tree was planted on the grassy expanse that is the former site of the T.B. Scott Mansion.



The 2021 Fill the Gazebo Drive was a great success, with local individuals and organizations contributing over 5,000 pounds of goods and \$14,657 in monetary gifts, which were divided between Merrill's three food pantries, Food for Kids, HAVEN, the MAC Home, and St. Vincent de Paul's Outreach Center. Pictured are a portion of the collections, along with a few of the 30 volunteers who worked the event. Thank you, Merrill!



A portion of the items HAVEN received from the 2021 Fill the Gazebo Event. The organization also received \$1,116 from the community donation drive, said Kim West, Executive Director at HAVEN.

Submitted photos.

# Dave's PUMPKINFEST SALE

In Store Trick or Treating Saturday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> 10AM to 4PM  
Check out each department for their goodies.

 <p>Rosina Assorted Varieties <b>Meatballs</b> <b>\$6.99</b> 20-26 oz. pkg.</p>	 <p>Sugardale <b>Pepperoni</b> <b>\$2.50</b> 8 oz. pkg.</p>	 <p>Our Own Homemade <b>Stuffed Chickens</b> <b>\$1.99</b> lb.</p>
 <p>Canadian <b>Walleye Fillets</b> 6-8 oz. avg. <b>\$8.99</b> lb.</p>	 <p>Family Pack <b>Country Style Pork Spare Ribs</b> <b>\$1.99</b> lb.</p>	 <p>Big Pack <b>Chicken Leg Quarters</b> <b>99¢</b> lb.</p>

Only At Dave's • Only At Dave's • Only At Dave's • Only At Dave's

**Whole Beef Tenderloin** CUT FREE  
3-4 lb. Average size **\$7.99** lb.

Only At Dave's • Only At Dave's • Only At Dave's • Only At Dave's

PRODUCE	LIQUOR
Carving Pumpkins ..... <b>\$4.99</b> ea.	1.75 Liters Captain Morgan Spiced Rum ..... <b>\$26.99</b>
Red Seedless Grapes ..... <b>\$1.99</b> lb.	750 ML., Assorted Varieties Roscato Rosso ..... <b>\$9.99</b>
Green Seedless Grapes ..... <b>\$1.99</b> lb.	Dolce Wine ..... <b>\$9.99</b>
Golden Pineapple ..... <b>\$2.99</b> ea.	1.75 Liters Canadian Mist Blended Canadian Whiskey... <b>\$15.99</b>
Assorted Hard Squash ..... <b>89¢</b> lb.	

DAIRY	GROCERY
Dean's, 24 oz. French Onion Dip... <b>2/\$5.00</b>	Kellogg Family Size Cereal, 19.1-24 oz. Froot Loops, Apple Jacks, Corn Pops or Frosted Flakes ..... <b>2/\$7.00</b>
Dean's, 14 oz. Half & Half ..... <b>99¢</b>	Essential Everyday, 38 oz. Ketchup ..... <b>2/\$3.00</b>
Dean's, 24 oz. Lactose Free ..... <b>\$2.99</b>	Cottonelle, 6 = 24 Mega Rolls Toilet Paper ..... <b>\$6.99</b>
64 oz. Sunny D ..... <b>99¢</b>	

FROZEN	DELI
Jacks, 12" Pizza ..... <b>3/\$9.00</b>	Kretschmar Oven Roasted Turkey Breast ..... <b>\$6.99</b> lb.
Kemp's, 48 oz. Pumpkin Pie Ice Cream ..... <b>\$5.49</b>	Mrs. Gerry's Cowboy Caviar ..... <b>\$3.99</b> lb.
Mrs. Bowen's, 14 oz. Tom & Jerry Mix ..... <b>\$4.29</b>	

**BAKERY**

8 x 8 Pan Pumpkin Bars ..... **\$5.49**

**TURKEY FEATHER PROMOTION!**  
Between now and November 24<sup>th</sup> 2021, for every single transaction totaling \$50, receive a "Turkey Feather" at the register. Collect 5 "Turkey Feathers" and exchange them by December 5<sup>th</sup> 2021, for a \$10.00 Dave's gift certificate. (Max per transaction (5) See store for details.)

All Sales Good Through Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021!  
Limits are in place on some items. Items based on availability. Sorry, no rainchecks.

# Dave's County Market

WE VALUE FRESH  
WE VALUE FAMILY  
WE VALUE YOU!

300 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> ST. MERRILL • 715-536-2571

Check Out Our Website at: [www.DavesCountyMarketMerrill.com](http://www.DavesCountyMarketMerrill.com)

## Fall Tire Sale

Best Prices of the Season!

**\$1 TIRE!**  
WHEN YOU BUY 3  
October thru November  
\*Some Brands Excluded

Also, ask us how to save **\$100<sup>00</sup>** and get **6 months 0%** financing on tires or service!  
\*\*Must be approved through FCA Financing, by 11/30/21

We perform no charge wheel alignment checks with every oil change!

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PHONE: 715-536-2833 • TOLL FREE 800-499-JEEP (5337)  
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BUSINESS LINK Jeep CHRYSLER DODGE RAM

# ATTENTION HUNTERS

DO YOU HAVE A PARTICULAR HUNTING MEMORY OR EXPERIENCE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?  
How about a particular photo of that trophy Whitetail Buck or other game?  
If so, we want to hear from you!

Please send your submissions to  
Merrill Foto News Editor Tina Scott at  
[tscott@mmclocal.com](mailto:tscott@mmclocal.com) by Monday, Nov. 1.

Your submission(s) may be featured in the Merrill Foto News' Annual Hunting Guide in mid-November!

\*Any hunting-related submission is welcome, regardless of how new or old. While e-mailed submissions are preferred, in-person submissions may be dropped off at the Merrill Foto News Office (921. E. Main Street) between regular business hours of 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

**PANCAKES** All-You-Can-Eat (Potato and Regular) Drinks available

**This Sunday, October 24 • 9am-1pm**  
 Adults \$9.00 • Children (6-10 years) \$5.00  
 Children 5 and under are FREE (Carry-Out Available)

PROCEEDS WILL BE GIVEN TO KASI WICKE TO HELP DEFRAY MEDICAL EXPENSES

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**The Eagles Club**  
 1205 N Lake St. • Merrill, WI 54452  
 Open to the Public • (715) 536-7471

**DINNER SPECIALS OCT. / NOV.**

**TUESDAY NIGHTS**  
 Oct. 26th - Meatloaf  
 Nov. 2nd - Liver & Onions  
 Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
 Oct. 22nd - Walleye  
 Oct. 29th - Bluegills  
 Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM  
 CLIP-N-SAVE

**CARRYOUT AVAILABLE**  
 • MONDAY: Bar Open at 3pm  
 • LUNCH AVAILABLE: TUES. & FRI. 11am-2pm WED. & THURS. 11am-8pm  
 Specials • Fish Fries • Homemade Soup  
 • DINNER MENU: TUES. 4-8pm & FRI. 4-8pm  
 • SATURDAY: Bar Open at 3pm  
 • SUNDAY: Bar Open From 11am-7pm  
 Visit our Website! 584.localfoewi.com  
 HAPPY HOUR: TUESDAY-THURSDAY • 3-6PM

**NEW!** Thursday Nights 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

Oct. 21st..... WI Sports  
 Oct. 28th .... Halloween  
 Nov. 4th..... Merrill History  
 Nov. 11th .... Military

601 Johnson Street - Merrill, Wisconsin 715-536-5708

**NORTHWOODS VETERANS POST**

**SAT OCT 30TH HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
 Costume Contest with Cash Prizes!  
 Top 5 Prizes - Winners Announced at 10 pm  
 Drink Specials For Wearing A Costume  
 Live Music by Brady Luke Band 8:30-11:30pm

**WELCOME HUNTERS!**

**Packer Early Game Tailgate Buffet Special**  
 Sept 12th/ 3:25pm | Oct 3rd/ 3:25pm | Oct 10th/ 12pm  
 Oct. 17th/ 12pm | Oct. 24th/ 12pm  
**Late Game Food & Drink Specials** JOIN US FOR ALL THE GAMES  
 Thurs. Oct 28th / 7:20 pm WATCH ON OUR 14" TV SCREEN  
 During Games Only

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 Mondays All Seats \$5.00

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 "PG13" 2 Hour 35 Min.  
 Everyday: 7:00 p.m.  
 Fri. & Sat.: 7:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.  
 Sat. & Sun.: 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

**RON'S GONE WRONG**  
 "PG" 1 Hour 46 Min.  
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**SUNDAY, OCT. 24TH GREEN BAY VS WASHINGTON PARTY**

**FOOD & HAPPY HOUR PRICES SHOTS W/EVERY GB TD**

**OCT. BOOZE OF THE MONTH**  
**CROWN ROYAL**  
 \$5.50 - 16 oz. Pint

**THURSDAY'S IN OCTOBER**  
**MENS POWER HOUR**  
 10pm - 11pm  
 \$1.50 Bottles

**HALLOWEEN BINGO**  
**SATURDAY, OCT. 30TH**  
 1pm  
**KARAOKE**  
 8pm

**COSTUME CONTEST**  
 Judging at 11pm

**MEAT RAFFLE**  
**SATURDAY NOV. 6TH**  
 To Benefit the Merrill Traveling Bowling 1pm

# Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM  
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

## The Last Duel

(now showing in theatres)

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Rated a hard R for language, violence, bloodshed, sexual situations, and rape.

*The last Duel*, the latest film by Ridley Scott, arguably the greatest director of our times, is loosely based on the last state-sanctioned duel-to-the-death in France in 1386 between Jean de Carrouges, played by a scowling Matt Damon (from about a million movies we have all seen), and Jacques Le Gris, played by Adam Driver (Emo Sith from the *Star Wars* saga), over the accusation of the rape of Carrouges' wife, Marguerite.

Ridley Scott, as mentioned, is one of the greatest, if not *the* greatest, modern directors out there. His works include *Alien*, *Blade Runner*, and *Kingdom of Heaven*, to name a few, but here he misses the mark.

The direction and editing is what I have come to expect from Mr. Scott, but the casting - oh boy, the casting! Matt Damon is completely miscast as a Medieval French Knight, and for some unknown reason, Ben Affleck was cast as the Count Damon and Driver answer to.

Now don't get me wrong: *The Last Duel* is pretty darn good in spite of the flaws, although it does run a tad long at 2 hours 33 minutes.

The story is told in three chapters: From Carrouges' perspective, then from Le Gris' perspective, and lastly, from Marguerite de Carrouges' perspective, played to perfection by Jodie Comer (*Free Guy*).



The last part of the film is the duel. Here is where the film shines. The duel is brutal and staggeringly realistic; no glamour, just two men dueling and trying not to die in the brutal fashion people killed one another in that day and age.

The actual duel that took place was a massive affair; thousands came from all over France to see two Noblemen fight to the death in the belief that God would only allow the righteous to be victorious.

Mr. Scott also pulls no punches showing how in that age of mankind, women were considered no better than property.

Three out of five stars for *The last Duel*, due to its solid story, great direction, and one stellar performance.

But make no doubt before you see this one: it is brutal, and the brutality is all the worse because it is done with a sense of realism.

Guess what opens tomorrow? ... *Dune!*



Hudsyn and Kenzingtyn Adams, children of Amanda and Dustyn Adams of Merrill, decided the beautiful autumn weather on Saturday, Oct. 2, created the perfect opportunity for a pop-up lemonade stand on the corner of Taylor and Champagne Streets.  
**Tina L. Scott photo.**

N7198 US HWY 45 | WITTENBERG, WI | 715.253.4400

**MONSTER Match**

YOU COULD BE THE WINNER OF  
**\$5,000 CASH**

OCT 9, 16, 23 & 30 | 10PM

**HO-CHUNK GAMING**  
WITTENBERG



Celebrating Housekeeping Appreciation Week in Sept., Mike Longhini, Manager of Franchise Operations providing support for 78 Wyndham Hotels, presented the Award of Top Housekeeping staff in his region to the Merrill AmericInn. Housekeeping Manager Lisa Schmidt was pleased to know their rolling 12-month cleanliness score was 9.4 overall, an outstanding guest derived score. Merrill AmericInn was one of the Top 3 in Promoters Score "How likely are you to recommend this Hotel?" Owners Mary and Gary Schwartz provided an Appreciation Lunch to the staff. L to R: Owners Mary and Gary Schwartz; housekeepers Jan Evans, (manager) Lisa Schmidt, Krista Dymore, Aleya Wardall, Amira Lloyd, Meghan Sampo, and Wyndham Rep Longhini. Merrill AmericInn was also recently awarded Best of Wyndham.  
**Submitted photo.**

**S&S BAR** Open Daily 9 am - Close  
418 Grand Ave., Merrill

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**DEADLINE**

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE**  
**MONDAY AT 4 PM**



# Thank You

**TO ALL WHO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY!**

## Merrill Police Department



The employees of the Merrill Police Department are committed to protecting life, property and maintaining order while assuring fair and equal treatment of all citizens. This is our mission.

We recognize that in order to accomplish our mission, we need to work for and with everyone in the Merrill Community. Citizen input is critical and so I ask that

you let us know how we are doing. With your help, we can make sure that Merrill is a safe community and great place to live.

It is the vision of the Merrill Police Department to be continually recognized as a professional law enforcement agency that is responsive to community needs and whose employees are committed to serving the citizens of this community with pride.

The Merrill Police Department is committed to protecting life, property and maintaining order, while assuring fair and equal treatment.



Merrill Police Department K9 Eros.  
Photo courtesy of the Merrill Police Department

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

**Integrity:** We discern between what is right and what is wrong and then act on what is right even at personal cost.

**Commitment:** We use a positive set of beliefs, coupled with an equally positive

set of actions and behavior, we are dedicated to the duties entrusted to us by our community.

**Professionalism:** We strive to achieve and maintain the highest standards of conduct, reflecting the integrity of Police professionals.

**Responsiveness:** We recognize and respond to the needs of our community and promptly act using problem solving methods.

**Teamwork:** We recognize each other as valuable members of our team and work together to identify and solve organizational and community issues. We seek citizen involvement in our mission

**Equipment:** We utilize 6 marked squads in a nearly constant duty cycle, 3 unmarked squads, 2 police bicycles, 6 mobile data computers, RADAR/LIDAR speed detection devices, 6 in-car video systems, and many more tools of the profession.

**Special training:** Specialized training in the law enforcement field is with-

See **MERRILL** page 11



Merrill Police Chief Corey Bennett holds a fish he and his fishing buddy caught during this summer's Cops 'n Kds fun fishing day at Council Grounds.

Photo courtesy of Merrill Police Department.

### DEPARTMENT STAFF:

#### ADMINISTRATION

Corey Bennett, Chief of Police, Instructor  
Jenny Thorson, Administrative Assistant, Property/Evidence Manager  
Christine Brahos, Administrative Assistant, Property/Evidence Manager  
Marci Rankin, Administrative Assistant/Desk and CVR primary contact

#### INVESTIGATIONS

Don Seubert II, Lieutenant, Detective, Instructor  
Nicole Cimino, Detective  
Jamie Jaeger, School Resource Officer, DARE Officer  
Matt Waid, Detective

#### PATROL

Pete Borchardt, Lieutenant  
Dale Bacher, Patrol Captain  
Tyler Tesch, Lieutenant, Drug Recognition Expert, Instructor  
Matt Drabek, Lieutenant, K9 Handler

Bryan Allen, Police Officer  
Brad Baker, Police Officer  
Brandon Brost, Police Officer  
Christina Doering, Police Officer  
Kurt Perra, Police Officer, Instructor  
Dane Mathwich, Police Officer, DARE Officer, Instructor  
Melissa Tremaine, Police Officer, DARE Officer, Instructor  
Josh McCaskill, Police Officer  
Robert Caylor, Police Officer, Instructor  
Eric Soberg, Police Officer, Instructor  
Ted Helm, Police Officer, Instructor  
Wyatt Pufall, Police Officer  
Riley Kurtz, Police Officer  
K-9 Eros

#### ADULT CROSSING GUARDS

Deb Hartwig  
Don Norman  
Jeff Zettler  
Gerald Burnett  
Larry Sampo



Merrill Police Department Chief Corey Bennett pictured with McGruff The Crime Dog.

**DELICIOUS Hugo's Pizza** Celebrating our 28<sup>th</sup> Year!  
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Tuesdays - Food Served 4-8pm • Fridays 4-8pm - Famous Fish Fries

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**Heavenly Father,**  
Bless those who are our First Responders, protect them from harm and danger. Thank you for calling them to the position they hold, and may they find joy in performing this service you have given to them. When they are afraid, give them courage, and strength when they are weak. We are blessed to have them serve and protect us.  
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

**St. John Lutheran Church and School**  
1104 E. Third St., Merrill

**The Trophy Bar salutes those on the front lines today and everyday.**

Owned by two local emergency responders.

**808 E. Main St., Merrill**  
**715.536.5780**  
3pm - Close Sat. & Sun. Noon to close

# Thank You TO ALL WHO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY!

## Merrill Fire Department

The Merrill Fire Department proudly provides fire protection and rescue service to an area spanning approximately 142 square miles, including the City of Merrill and Town of Merrill, Town of Scott, and most of the Town of Rock Falls. The department provides ambulance service to an area spanning approximately 520 square miles, including, the City of Merrill, town of Merrill and the towns of Corning, Harding, Scott, Pine River, Schley, Birch, Rock Falls, Russell and part of the town of Harrison.

Each member of the department is cross-trained for EMS (EMT Basic, EMT Intermediate and Paramedics) and fire-fighting. Also members are state certified inspectors, state certified driver/operator pumper and aerial. Many are also state certified Fire Officer 1 and instructor 1. In addition, members of the Merrill Fire Department frequently undergo specialized training including ice rescue, swift water rescue, trench rescue, collapse rescue, confined space rescue, hazardous materials operations level training, vehicle extrication, Mass Casualty incident, Rescue Task Force (active shooter), wildland fire training and EMS Paramedic level service.

Department apparatus consists of Engine-61 & 62, 63-Truck, Tender-65,

Squad-64, Brush-66, Car-60 & 67, Utility & UTV-68, Boat-69, and Meds-61, 62, & 63.

**Right:** Engine 61 outside the Merrill Fire Department during the annual Light the Night for Firefighters. The station displayed red bulbs from September 26 - October 3 in remembrance of those who paid the ultimate price this past year.

Photos courtesy of Merrill Fire



Merrill Fire Department Personnel. L to R: Chaplin David Szeto, Battalion Chief Phil Skoug, Battalion Chief Jon Leiskau, Battalion Chief Tadd Wegener, Corey Nowak, Nick Phelps, Paul Peterson, Eric Trempe, John Kraegenbrink, Ross Witucki, Josh Grovogel, Tyler Mueller, Dylan Schielke, Dave Graveen, Jacob Aumann, Administrative Assistant Jana Johnson, Battalion Chief Scott Krause, Fire Chief Josh Klug, Missing: Kyle Banaszak, Bryson Cruise, Daylan Enkers, Scott Gomoll, Jason Hendricks, Rick Sparks, Tom Teetzen, and Fire Inspector Joe Bozinski.

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THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO  
IN THESE EXTRAORDINARY TIMES, WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR ALL OUR LOCAL HEROES. MAY GOD KEEP YOU SAFE ALWAYS AND BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY.  
**HAWKS**  
Trinity Lutheran School  
611 W. Main St., Merrill  
715-536-7501

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# Thank You TO ALL WHO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY!

## Town of Corning Volunteer Fire Department and First Responders

The Corning Volunteer Fire Department is a single station, 100% volunteer fire department providing fire protection to the towns of Corning and Harding which total 218.6 square miles. As of January 2015 the department has a membership consisting of 25 Fire Fighters, and 9 First Responders. These dedicated volunteers give many hours of their time to attend meetings, drills, weekly maintenance nights, and of course calls.

Department apparatus consists of 1 Engine, 2 Tenders (Tankers), 1 Utility Truck, 1 Brush Truck, 1 6-wheeled Brush Unit, and 1 Rescue truck.

### First Responders

The Corning First Responders proudly provide the residents and visitors of the Town of Corning with pre-hospital emergency medical care. Each First



Responder must complete rigorous training and have a valid license to practice in the State of Wisconsin. Each First Responder carries with them a Basic

Pictured left to right- Chief Dave Hoff, Collin Zoellner, Matt Radtke, Bob Geise, Andy Grawien, Andy Monnot, Joel Oelke, John Kudick, Brian Literski, Cody Stevenson, Kyle Kudick, Jared Semling, Mark Woller.

Life Support kit to assist in their duties. Items in this kit include an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), Digital Pulse Oximeters, multiple bandages and dressings, oxygen therapy equipment, and basic airway adjuncts.

First responders play a vital role in the EMS community by assessing, stabilizing, and beginning treatment of patients before an ambulance arrives.

### MERRILL from page 9

out boundaries and is only limited by the creativity of criminal activity. With that in mind we often send our officers to specialized training as well as conduct in-house training. In order to conduct some training in-house, the MPD has certified instructors for the core training subjects of Defense and Arrest Tactics, Firearms, Emergency Vehicle Operation, Professional Communication, and Vehicle Contacts. Additionally, we have Field Training Officers, Evidence Technicians, Child Safety Seat Technicians, 3 DARE Officers, a Clandestine Laboratory Enforcement Team member, a First Aid/CPR instructor, a Drug Recognition Expert, etc.

**What the Department is most proud of:** The Merrill Police Department possesses a priceless tool in our profession, which is a great group of employees. Without their dedication to their jobs, we would certainly not achieve the successes we have realized in the past. Our employees not only serve their core function but they volunteer personal time and keep flexible schedules to allow the MPD to participate in special events and services, all within budget. The other key component to success has been the partnerships we constantly try to maintain within the community. We have spent a considerable amount of effort to build upon those relationships. Ultimately we recognize that in order to "Serve Merrill with Pride" we must have a partner in the whole community.

**DEPARTMENT STAFF:**

<b>Chief:</b> Dave Hoff	<b>Firefighter, Equipment Officer:</b> Andy Monnot	Stan Wendt
<b>Assistant Chief:</b> Jared Semling	Cody Stevenson	
<b>Safety Officer, EMS:</b> Jason Bondioli	<b>Firefighters:</b> Brian Klebenow	Paul Goetsch
<b>Captain, Equipment:</b> Kyle Kudick	Tim Berndt	Matt Prebeg
<b>Lieutenant, Fire Inspector:</b> Josh Kohnhorst	Joel Oelke	<b>Firefighter, Maintenance Officer:</b> Matt Radke
<b>Lieutenant:</b> Bob Giese	John Kudick	<b>EMS:</b> Sue Dickerson,
<b>Secretary &amp; Fire Inspector:</b> Mark Woller	Brian Literski	Jessi Ryan-Geiger
	Joe Pilecky	<b>EMS Director:</b> Jody Geiger

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# Thank You TO ALL WHO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY!

## Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

**Municipalities covered:** Patrol Deputies are responsible for patrolling all portions of Lincoln County. Dispatch provides services to: LISO, Merrill PD, Tomahawk PD on overnights and weekends and handles all 911 calls county-wide. Additional agencies dispatched includes: Fire Departments: Corning, Merrill, Pine River, Russell and Tomahawk. EMS: Merrill EMS, Tomahawk EMS, Corning First Responders, Pine River First Responders Russell First Responders. In 2019 the dispatch center handled 24,419 calls for service.

**Equipment Utilized:** in order to reach the entire county through ever-changing weather conditions, the Sheriff's Office uses all-wheel drive vehicles for patrol work. Each patrol unit is equipped with a mobile data computer that provides call information, and digital mapping of the entire county. The Rec. Deputy is equipped with a four-wheel drive pickup truck, an ATV, a boat and diving equipment. The SRT Team utilizes a mobile command trailer and four-wheel drive pickup truck to tow it along with a Bear Cat rescue vehicle that was obtained thanks to a grant from the Bierman Family Foundation.

**Specialized training:** We endeavor to recruit new employees who have the best training and experience. Members of the Sheriff's Office who through their job performance or interest in a field may go on for additional training or assignments including DARE Officers, SRT Members, Investigators, Drug Unit, EVOG Instructor, traffic safety specialist, field training officers, firearms instructor, honor guard, or other unit specific training.

**What the department is most proud of:** The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office employees strive to serve the community through effective and professional law enforcement. We recognize that we must always have the public's



trust in order to truly be effective. Historically we have been able to use our proactive approach to reduce fatal crashes by using a variety of enforcement tools including removing impaired and aggressive drivers from the roadway. Our drug unit continues to diligently and aggressively address the manufacture and sales of illegal drugs in Lincoln County. With strong leadership and a determined group of employees this agency continues to provide effective response and handling of incidents through the county as we work with fellow emergency service agencies and the public to provide a safe and secure environment to live, work and play.

### DEPARTMENT STAFF:

#### SWORN STAFF WITH YEARS OF SERVICE

**Sheriff:** Ken Schneider - 31 years  
**Chief Deputy:** Nathan Walrath - 18 years  
**Lieutenant Chad Collinworth** - 14 years  
**Lieutenant Grant Peterson** - 28 years  
**Lieutenant Tyler Iverson** - 15 years  
**Lieutenant Andy VanderWyst** - 17 years  
**Lieutenant Andrew Schmidt** - 14 years  
**Deputy Conner Monk** - 2 years  
**Deputy Holly Steckbauer** - 9 years  
**Deputy Blade Mikula** - 7 years  
**Deputy Reed Lazarz** - 19 years  
**Deputy Michael Remington** - 6 years  
**Deputy James Gehris** - 9 years  
**Sergeant Investigator Roger Sir** - 12 years  
**Deputy Joel Prael** - 6 years  
**K9 Poncho** - 4 years  
**Deputy Logan Lange** - 4 years  
**Deputy Corey Brehmer** - 5 years  
**Deputy Brian Haffemann** - 31 years  
**Deputy Travis Watruba** - 15 years  
**Deputy Thomas Tollefson** - <1 year

**Sergeant Investigator Kevin A Orzech** - 21 years  
**Deputy Ethyn Van Camp** - <1 year  
**Deputy Michael Sundquist** - 17 years  
**Sergeant Investigator Randy Ruleau** - 14 years  
**Deputy Sam Steckbauer** - 11 years  
**K9 Nina** - 4 years  
**Deputy Brian Burkhardt** - 2 years  
**Deputy Ashtin Zunker** - <1 year

#### CORRECTIONS STAFF WITH YEARS OF SERVICE

**Jail Administrator: David Manninen** - 24 years  
**CO Austin Brown** - <1 year  
**CO Nicole Magray** - 6 years  
**CO Sergeant Ivy Janak** - 12 years  
**CO Jamie Malone** - 2 years  
**CO Jason Meister** - 17 years  
**CO Pamela Steffenhagen** - 30 years  
**CO Shane Fendos** - 2 years  
**CO Jessica Steenweg** - 3 years  
**CO Thomas Laiter** - 2 years  
**CO Zachary Irish** - <1 year

**Sergeant Jodie L. Wilhelm** - 19 years  
**CO Matt Poetzel** - 3 years  
**Sergeant Nicholas Hoeft** - 9 years  
**CO Tara Howard** - 2 years  
**CO Damian Hardt** - 1 year  
**CO Timothy Kurtz** - 12 years  
**CO Tyler Kopetzky-Skidmore** - 6 years  
**Sergeant Jordan Oelke** - 7 years  
**CO Julie Woller** - 3 years  
**CO Jacob Boyer** - 5 years  
**CO Michael A Tuley** - 4 years

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS STAFF WITH YEARS OF SERVICE

**Lieutenant Tim Fischer (Sworn)** - 27 years  
**Kyla Magray** - <1 year  
**Jerrica Dengel** - <1 year  
**Anne M Wood** - 21 years  
**Sadie Plisch** - <1 year  
**Mary Jo Smith** - 19 years  
**Christine Turner-Meilahn** - 19 years  
**Kevin Haring** - 25 years  
**Rhonda Bacher** - 14 years  
**Maggie Trickle** - 2 years

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# Thank You TO ALL WHO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY!

## Town of Pine River Fire Department and First Responders

**Municipalities covered:** Town of Pine River; automatic mutual aid to the Marathon County Town of Hewitt for vehicle crashes.

**Equipment Utilized:** A 2020 Pierce Enforcer pumper, a FWD Seagrave Pumper, two tankers, a brush truck and six-wheeled off road rescue vehicle, heavy duty rescue truck, and utility truck for manpower transport and fill site operations.

**Specialized Training:** Each member of the department is certified Firefighter 1, many have gone on to become Firefighter II certified. We utilize our own in-house training program and have three certified instructors on our roster. We also use the NTC Merrill Campus to keep our members up to date on the latest training advances in the fire service and work with the Towns of Texas and Hewitt quarterly.

**What your department is most proud of:** We enjoy a strong commitment from both our members and our town residents to keep the department well-staffed and adequately equipped. We have remained healthy and strong as we adjusted our operations in the face of the pandemic. Things are starting to return to normal with the return of our in-person open house and pig roast in September, which was another great success; and we look forward to the return of our popular Santa in the firehouse this December.

DEPARTMENT STAFF WITH YEARS OF SERVICE:	
<b>CHIEF:</b> John Uttech - 16 years	September Murphy - 2 years
<b>ASST. CHIEF:</b> Tony Hartwig - 16 years	Dave O'Brien - 16 years
<b>CAPTAINS:</b> Mike Caylor - 16 years Jeff Zettler - 15 years	Maxine Schuetze - 9 years John Spohn - 10 years
<b>LIEUTENANTS:</b> Doug Sann - 16 years Brad Hartwig - 13 years	John Rainville - 16 years Dave Renken - 16 years Todd Roman - 16 years Carl Uttech - 16 years Lori Wendt - 10 years Gene Williams - 16 years
<b>SAFETY OFFICER:</b> Ryan Lofink - 2 years	Marilyn Zastrow - 14 years T. J. Brunett - 2 years Ethan Cordova - 1 year
<b>MAINTENANCE OFFICER:</b> Gene Emmer - 16 years	<b>FIRST RESPONDERS:</b> Sharon Uttech - EMS Director - 14 years
<b>TRAINING OFFICER:</b> Lindsey Johnson - 7 years	Mike Caylor - 14 years Tony Hartwig - 14 years Mark Handlin - 14 years John Uttech - 14 years Marilyn Zastrow - 14 years Valerie Caylor - 5 years Jennifer Hartwig - 2 years Hannah Zastrow - 2 years
<b>FIREFIGHTERS:</b> John Deering - 16 years Kevin Georgeson - 2 years Andrew Grawien - 1 year Marvin Hartwig - 16 years Destini Hendry - 2 years Nick Krzanowski - 16 years Dustin Meunier - 16 years	



Town of Russell Fire Department: 3750 gpm of pure fire killing power! Engine 7, Engine 6 and Engine 23 as of May 2021.

Michael J. Hoffman photo.

## Town of Russell Volunteer Fire Department

The Town of Russell Fire Department proudly protects the Townships of Birch, Harrison, Russell and Schley as well as Lincoln Hills School and Copper Lake School in Lincoln County. The department also serves townships of Parrish and Summit in Langlade County.

DEPARTMENT STAFF:	
<b>Fire Chief</b> Robert Kressel	Greg Lange
<b>Assistant Chief</b> Mike Hoffman	Christian Lee
<b>Captain</b> Marcel Rusch	Keith Maas
<b>1st Lieutenant</b> Cody Bergman	Jeff Miller
<b>2nd Lieutenant</b> Jason Yanke	John Mooneyham
<b>Secretary</b> Bonita Pruesser	Tim Ronis
<b>Treasurer</b> Jamie Rusch	Tina Schenk
<b>Firefighters:</b>	Elise Schuler
Travis Gerdes	Samual Schuler
Dave Heller	Keith Stoney
Timothy Klimek	

## Town of Russell First Responders

The Town of Russell First Responders is a volunteer Emergency Medical Responder organization. We support Antigo Ambulance, Merrill Ambulance, Oneida County Ambulance and Tomahawk Ambulance within our service area. We currently serve the Towns of Birch, Harrison, Russell and Schley in Lincoln County and Parrish, Summit and Vilas in Langlade County. We are truly blessed to serve our surrounding communities.

FIRST RESPONDER STAFF:
Tricia Maas
Tim Steinfest
Andrew Headings
Michelle Last



2016 photo.

Stacy Literski Photography.



Santa will be returning the Pine River Fire Station this December.

Tina L. Scott photo.

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On Sept. 19 the Merrill Eagles #584 held a Pancake Breakfast Benefit for Patrick Rominski to assist him with expenses associated with his medical condition. Pictured are Bryan Plautz (Aerie Pancake Breakfast Co-Chair), Patrick Rominski (Recipient), and Sue Heckendorf (Auxiliary Pancake Breakfast Co-Chair).

Submitted photo.



The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to thank Shana & Caroline Klesmith for their generous donation to the shelter! Shana & Caroline donated supplies as part of the NTC's Day of Giving.

Submitted photo.

**AUMANN** from page 1

of Emergency Department at [then] Good Samaritan Hospital. The panel recommended four candidates after the interviews for future consideration. Those four candidates then took an online test that took a couple hours to complete. The same four candidates were then interviewed by the Merrill Police & Fire Commission on June 18, 2020. On the morning of June 19, 2020, the four candidates were back at the Fire Station for one last interview with the Fire Chief and his panel. Jacob Aumann was offered the position after all of the evaluations, interviews, and testing. With conditional offer of employment accepted, Aumann then had a background check, drug screening, and occupational physical performed."

During his initial weeks with the Merrill Fire Department, he completed Department orientation trainings and was assigned to B shift and started on his regularly scheduled 48-hour shift, Battalion Chief Phillip Skoug said. "Firefighter/Paramedic Ross Witucki was Jacob's assigned mentor and, along with the other members of the shift and Department, assisted with Jacob's probationary training."

Aumann and his wife, Vanessa, and their two children, Kaleb and Laila, moved from Rosholt to Merrill when he accepted the position.

Traditionally, a Badge Pinning Ceremony for him would have been held in the summer of 2020, not long after he joined the Fire Department. However, due to COVID, that was delayed until July 12, 2021, as Aumann neared his one-year anniversary with the Department and the end of his probationary period.

At this Badge Pinning Ceremony, the Fire Chief and Battalion Chiefs, including Battalion Chief Phillip Skoug and Battalion Chief Tadd Wegener, Jacob's Shift Commander, shared about Jacob until the moment of honor, when his wife, Vanessa, officially and ceremoniously pinned his badge.

Battalion Chief Skoug spoke of Aumann's contribu-



Firefighter/Paramedic Jacob Aumann has his badge officially pinned by his wife, Vanessa, at his Badge Pinning Ceremony.

Tina L. Scott photo.

tions and character since he joined the Merrill Fire Department. "In working with Jacob for the past year, his shift members were asked for a word to describe Jacob. The words used by his shift members described him as respectful, dedicated, mature, independent, shows a willingness to learn, and is self-motivated," he said.

"Early on in his career, Jacob was willing to assist the Department as they had recently obtained the new EMS skill of Rapid Sequence Intubation," Skoug continued. "Jacob had suggested coming up with a medication dosage chart for this skill, and he took the initiative to put this chart together as reference for the staff on the ambulances. This example has earned him positions on both the EMS and Facilities Division of the Department."

"We are very excited to join the Merrill community. We know Merrill has so much to offer, which is why I decided to pursue a job with the Fire Department," explained Aumann shortly after he was hired.

Jacob and his family enjoy biking, hiking, walking their dogs, and playing various types of games together, including board, video, and yard games. In addition, Jacob enjoys hunting, fishing, shooting at the range, and playing guitar.

"The Merrill Fire Department is very pleased and excited to have Jacob Aumann join their family. Please congratulate him on selection to his position as the 188th member of the Merrill Fire Department," Chief Klug said back in 2020 in a news release announcing Aumann's addition to the Department. "... We sincerely hope that the Merrill community welcomes Firefighter/Paramedic Jacob Aumann and his family with open arms and hospitality."

The same sentiments hold true now, even though Aumann's formal recognition was somewhat delayed. When a Firefighter/Paramedic joins the Department, he or she joins a family and a community. Aumann promises to be a fine addition.



The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to send out a big thank you to the friends and family of Kyle Kreager of Merrill. They donated all of these wonderful items for the pets in his memory! They also have a GoFundMe, and other monetary donations have been coming in, in memory of Kyle. Thank you all so much for thinking of the shelter as a way to honor Kyle.



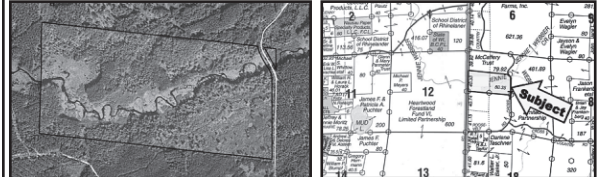
The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to thank Bryce Lemke and Elliot Creech of Tomahawk. They had a lemonade stand on the 4th of July that raised around \$140! Bryce and Elliot then bought supplies for the pets at the shelter! Thank you for your hard work and support!

Submitted photo.

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**OPEN HOUSE:** There will be an **OPEN HOUSE** on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24**, from **1-3 PM** with a member of Nolan Sales present to answer questions about the property, or property can be viewed by appointment.

**AUCTION TERMS:** High bidder shall sign an Offer to Purchase and related documents and put down 10% of the final sale price by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. Offer will be written as a cash offer not subject to financing, and the transaction will be closed by a title company to guarantee clear title. Closing to be held within sixty (60) days of auction ending. Property is being sold "As Is - Where Is" with no warranties of any kind either expressed or implied. **NO BUYER'S PREMIUM** Wire transfer, bank check, or personal check will be accepted for down payment. Upon receipt of accepted offer to purchase and earnest money, successful bidder will be granted hunting rights for the 2021 season. Sale clerked by Nolan Auction, Inc. Regular auction terms - cash or personal check. Everything sold as is, where is. No Warranties.

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**Saturday, October 23rd, 2021 10:00 AM**  
**ESTATE OF DALBERT FLETCHER**  
**177525 CTY RD. N., BIRNAMWOOD, WI**  
**See Website for Directions. WATCH FOR SIGNS!**  
 Equipment: Nissan Crew Cab, White Ford 1991 Passenger Car • Mossy Ferguson 1085 Tractor w/Cab, Good Tires • Allis Chalmers 8 tractor w/blade Front and Loader • 3 Point Dropper • 3 Point Sprayer • Troy • Built Riding Lawnmower (like new) • Lumber • Boat & Trailer • Power Saw • Router • Guns & Ammo: 2 Gun Cabinets • Many Boxes of Ammo • J.C. Higgins Shot Gun • Springfield Rifle • Pump 22 Rifle • Ithaca 22 Lever Action Rifle • Western Field 22 Rifle and Many More • Household Buffet • Dining Table w/10 Chairs • Collector Pictures • Bedroom Set • Secretary w/Glass Front • Glider • Recliner • Refrigerator • Desk • Fishing Pole • Fishing Tackle • Freezer • and much, much more!  
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 Gail Abegglen 715-551-8016  
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 Updated and ready for you to move in! 3 bedroom home has built-ins, storage areas, pantry, and closets throughout. Invite your friends to enjoy a fire on the patio. Host a cozy dinner in the handy kitchen, or watch a game in the living room in front of the fireplace.  
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**Estate Sales 7208**  
**CW ESTATE SALE**  
 827 N. 6th Ave  
 Wausau, WI 54401  
 Fri. 10/22/21 2-6pm  
 Sat. 10/23/21 10-3pm  
 Sun. 10/24/21 10-3pm (1/2 off)  
 Come take a step back in time with this amazing vintage Retro sale down the road from Wausau West! Tons of vintage toys, games, Two vintage clam shell style desks, couple chalkboards, vintage wood kids kitchen, puzzles, plastic figures, coloring books, books, office wares and Christmas! A couple of Empire holiday blow molds, and Gurlay candles! Plenty of vintage clothing like moo moo's, house coats, Pajama sets, shirt dresses, and prom dresses. There's retro men's sweaters, and multiple styles of vintage jackets. Plenty of other clothing as well!! Large selection of vintage baby clothing and other vintage baby items. Plenty of vinyl and a couple record counsels. An art deco Wards Airline radio, Capehart 8 track player and speakers. Multiple MCM wall clocks and a chrome MCM floor lamp. Vintage Pyrex and Tupperware as well as a good selection of other MCM serviceware and utensils. Lots of sewing and yarn and fabric pieces, Cast iron pots, multiple vintage canister sets and bakeware. Hand and power tools, Craftsman snow blower, ladders and a primitive tool chest! For pictures, like CW Estate Sales and Services on Facebook.

**Miscellaneous Sales 7212**  
**Wood and electric combination cook stove** The wood half is in nice shape. The electric half needs a little work. For more information call 715-257-7045

**Cemetery Lots 7030**  
**Merrill Cemetery Plot For Sale.** \$650 Call 715-420-0109

**Antiques and Collectibles 7214**  
**ANTIQUES ON SPIRIT AVE**  
 3 E. Spirit Ave., Tomahawk, WI 715-453-4085  
 Open 12 - 4 Daily!  
 1. Salt Glazed Crock  
 2. Costume Jewelry (Winter & Summer)  
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 4. Porcelain Cigarette Lighters

**Musical Instruments 7220**  
**!!OLD GUITARS WANTED!!** GIBSON, FENDER, MARTIN, Etc. 1930's to 1980's. TOP DOLLAR PAID. CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-433-8277

**Furniture and Home Decor 7236**  
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**Info 563-608-4401 Marv Kraus**

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**Wanted to Buy 7268**  
**WANTED!** Old drum sets, snare drums, cymbals from the 1920s through 1970s. Also interested in pro level drum equipment and electronic drums from 1980s to present. Call 615-485-8611 or email me at: yourolddrumz@gmail.com

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, CO 80201

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 COLOR: SILVER  
 MILEAGE: 174,840  
 VIN: 1FAHP2KT2AG119653  
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# Merrill Bluejay Lady Swimmers finish strong, beating Wausau East 90-80

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

The Merrill Girls Swim Team traveled to Horace Mann Middle School in Wausau on Thursday, Oct. 14, where they faced off against Wausau East for their last dual meet of the season.

Head Coach Kristie Winter described the Wausau East Girls as a strong team and said Merrill and Wausau East went into the meet "tied for third in the Wisconsin Valley Conference, both teams only having losses to DC Everest and Stevens Point."

"Merrill battled hard after a disappointing DQ for the B 200 Medley Relay [team] in the first event but won 8 of 11 events overall," Winter said.

"Top swims were reported by Senior Grace Schultz in both the 100 fly and 100 backstroke, just missing the pool record by .5 in the backstroke; by Junior Amber Winter in the 200 IM and 100 breast; by Senior Claire Schultz in the 50 free; and by Freshman Olivia Pajdash in the 500 free," she said.

"Merrill also took the top spot in both the 200 Medley (Megan Miles, Amber Winter, Grace Schultz and Claire Schultz) and 200 Free Relays (Claire Schultz, Bailee Sommer, Amber Winter and Grace

Schultz)," Winter said. "The girls really had some great swims tonight, she added. "They have been training very hard, and we saw many season/personal best times tonight." The highest scores for Merrill in each of the events were as follows:

**Event 2** – 1st place in the Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay team of: Grace Schultz, Amber Winter, Claire Schultz, and Megan Miles (1:55.93)

**Event 4** – 2nd place in the Girls 200 Yard Freestyle: Olivia Pajdash (2:14.23)

**Event 6** – 1st place in the Girls 200 Yard IM: Amber Winter (2:20.09)

**Event 8** – 1st place in the Girls 50 Yard Freestyle: Claire Schultz (25.96)

**Event 10** – 1st place in the Girls 100 Yard Butterfly: Grace Schultz (1:00.96)

**Event 12** – 2nd place in the Girls 100 Yard Freestyle: Claire Schultz (57.81)

**Event 14** – 1st place in the Girls 500 Yard Freestyle: Olivia Pajdash (5:57.81)

**Event 16** – 1st place in the Girls 200 Yard Freestyle Relay: Grace Schultz, Amber Winter, Bailee Sommer, and Claire Schultz (1:48.36)

**Event 18** – 1st place in the Girls 100 Yard Backstroke: Grace Schultz (59.81)

**Event 20** – 1st place in the Girls 100 Yard Breaststroke: Amber Winter (1:09.97)

**Event 22** – 2nd place in the Girls 400 Yard Freestyle Relay: Megan Miles, Olivia Pajdash, and Bailey Orzech, Bailey Sommer (4:12.76)

**Box Score**  
Merrill 90 @ Wausau East 80

The team finishes their regular season with a 4-2 record in the Valley, taking third place.

They get a week off before heading to Wisconsin Rapids on Thursday, Oct 28., for their Conference meet, Winter said.



The Merrill Girls Swim Team poses for a photo after their last dual meet of the year on Oct. 14 against Wausau East. Both Wausau East and Merrill wore pink caps as a reminder of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Submitted photo.

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

**Grace Schultz**, a Senior at Merrill High School (MHS) has been named Athlete of the Week for the week of Oct. 21. Grace said she, like her twin, started taking swim lessons as a baby and then began competing at age eight. She joined the Merrill Bluejay Girls Swim Team as a Freshman and currently swims the 100 Yard Backstroke and the 200 Yard Individual Medley, as well as other events as her Coach rotates events. A year-round swimmer, Grace is a lifeguard at the Weston Aquatic Center in the summer and also at the Weston YMCA the rest of the year. She also competes November to August as a member of the Weston YMCA Northern Swimmers (WYNS).

At MHS, Grace is a member of the National Honor Society, Junior Optimists, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She grew up playing the piano and still plays occasionally. In her free time, she enjoys baking, camping, hiking, swimming beyond just in the pool, she said, and hanging out with friends going out to eat and going to Rib Mountain. She attends Highland Community Church and St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. The daughter of Lowie Schultz of Merrill, Grace has a 3.9 GPA and plans to study business at a four-year university, possibly marketing, while also continuing to swim competitively.



**Grace Schultz**

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## Lady Jays win one, lose one last week; next up: Regionals

On Tuesday, Oct. 12, the Merrill Varsity Volleyball Team won their home conference match against Stevens Point. The Bluejays beat the Panthers 3-0 in Merrill and celebrated not only their win, but also Senior Night, recognizing the last home conference game with four of this year's Senior players – McKenna Smith, Molly Dallman, Olivia Losee, and Dani Korman – and their contributions to the team.

**Box Score**  
Stevens Point 0 @ Merrill 3

Just two days later, on Thursday, Oct. 14, the Lady Jays headed to Marshfield for an away conference match against the

Marshfield Tigers. Despite playing hard, the Jays suffered a loss to the Tigers, one of the toughest teams they've played this season. The Tigers are currently in the lead in the Wisconsin Valley Conference, having achieved a 10-2 win/loss ratio after the Oct. 14 game.

**Box Score**  
Merrill 0 @ Marshfield 3

Merrill is rated third in the Wisconsin Valley Conference after the week's games with a 7-4 win/loss ratio.

Next up: Merrill plays Rhinelander in the Varsity Regionals at Merrill Tuesday, Oct. 19, followed by Varsity Regional Semifinals on Thursday, Oct. 21.

## October meeting Lincoln County Sports Club

The Lincoln County Sport Club will hold their October meeting on Thursday, Oct. 28, at 7:00 p.m. at the Club, 5071 Schulz Spur Rd., Merrill. [North on Hwy. K and left on Schulz Spur Rd.]

The featured guest speaker is Heather Berklund. She is the Chief State Forester for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Her plan is to provide a statewide overview of forestry in Wisconsin. A light lunch will be served.



**The Hanging Flower Basket Committee gratefully acknowledges all individuals, organizations and businesses for their support of the 2021 Hanging Flower Basket Project.**



The Hanging Flower Basket Project celebrates 14 years of beautifying Merrill. We gratefully acknowledge all individuals, organizations and businesses who have supported the Project. Our thanks also for assistance from Merrill's Street Department, The Chamber, Park and Recreation and our waterers, Jerry, AJLison, Ally and Jane Ann.

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# Merrill Bluejays go up against Medford and "Tackle Cancer"

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

On Friday night, Oct. 15, the Merrill Bluejay Football Team had a home game and their Tackle Cancer Fundraiser Night and went up against the Medford Raiders.

"Merrill players and coaches sported bright pink jerseys and jackets in honor of cancer awareness," Head Merrill Football Coach Jason Wadzinski said. "The game itself didn't end the way we would've liked. Bailey Turenne had an interception early on, and Brain Ball hit Erik Mann for a long touchdown pass to swing the momentum for the Bluejays."

A scoreless first quarter gave way to two touchdowns each for Merrill and Medford in the second quarter, but Merrill failed to make a two-point conversion on either of their touchdowns, and Medford was successful on both their attempts, bringing the score to Merrill 12 - Medford 16 at half time. In the third quarter, Medford again made two touchdowns, this time one with a successful two-point conversion and one without. Score: Merrill 12 - Medford 30. And that's where the score would remain for the rest of the game.

"We jumped out to an early lead with a couple of big plays," Wadzinski said, "But Medford's rushing attack was too much down the stretch."



"The end of a season is never easy. These Senior boys deserved to make playoffs and we couldn't get it done for them. As a staff, we're proud of how hard they continued to fight week in and week out when the numbers were stacked against them. My hope, as a first year Head Coach, is that these young men are better humans on Oct. 16 than they were on Aug. 1. That in itself is a tall order, because these Seniors were already amazing people. I'm proud of this team. I'm proud of the culture that we're shifting in this school. Most of all, I'm grateful for the time spent with them. Thank you, Merrill!" - Head Merrill Football Coach Jason Wadzinski

Photo courtesy of Merrill Football Instagram



Merrill Bluejay Football player, #10 Brian Ball is on the run with the ball, just out of the reach of the Raiders. Ball would go on to rack up 111 passing yards and 56 rushing yards in the game.

Joseph Frederick photo.

#10 Brian Ball had 111 passing yards and 56 rushing yards in the game, while #9 Erik Mann racked up 49 receiving yards.

"I'm incredibly proud of this group of young men this year," Wadzinski said. "They battled hard when the chips were

stacked against them consistently. They've shown our staff time and time again that life is bigger than football and the lessons learned in this sport are lifelong and invaluable. Go Bluejays!"

Box Score  
Medford 30 @ Merrill 12



Merrill's Cross Country Seniors are honored at the Oct. 9 Merrill Meet. L to R shown with their banners: Callen Hoepfner, Annie Becker, Kayoda Raddatz, Elizabeth Schmidt, Henry Reimann, Emma Marlowe, and David Golisch. Submitted photo.

## Merrill Cross Country Team covers a lot of ground and puts on the miles

### Two meets and more than 23 miles later, the team is still giving it their all

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Merrill had a Cross Country Conference Meet on Saturday, Oct. 16. First to cross the finish line for the Merrill Boys Team was David Golisch with a time of 5:41 with Callen Hoepfner right behind at 5:42. Third in for the Merrill guys was Henry Reimann (6:13), fourth in for Merrill guys was Ian Schuetze (6:20) with Merrill's Kayoda Raddatz (6:35) and Elliott Hanson (6:35) right behind and Kaden Schwandt (6:37) on their heels.

For the Lady Jays, Madison Crossman crossed the finish line first for Merrill with a time of 7:31 and Emma Marlowe came in second for Merrill at 7:54. Next in for the Merrill Girls came Annie Becker (7:59) and Breannon Herdt (7:59), followed by Olivia Pierce (8:11) and then Brooklyn Kragenbrink (8:35)

As a team, both the guys and girls came in seventh place out of the seven teams competing on Saturday but they gave it their all.

On Saturday, Oct. 9, Merrill hosted a Cross Country Meet at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC). "Merrill's home meet occurred on a wet and foggy day," Head Cross Country Coach Alyssa Swan said. "Our kids ran a good race, with multiple athletes medaling."

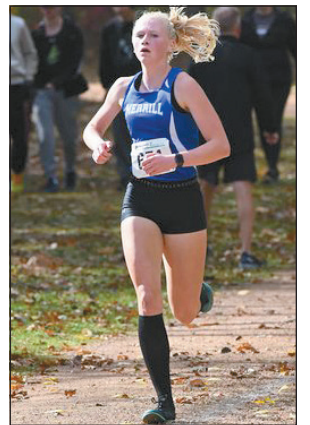
"For the Girls Team, Elizabeth Schmidt came in first place overall with a time of 19:08. Coming in second for Merrill was Annie Becker with a time of 24:15, followed by Olivia

Pierce (24:55), Emma Marlowe (25:58), and Brooklyn Kragenbrink (27:15)," she said.

"For the Boys Team, David Golisch came in first for Merrill and seventh overall with a time of 18:03," Swan added. "Callen Hoepfner was close behind coming in eighth overall with a time of 18:10. He was followed by Henry Reimann (19:09), Ian Schuetze (19:54), Elliott Hanson (20:01), Caleb Norton (20:43), Kayoda Raddatz (21:17), and Kaden Schwandt (22:03)."

The Merrill Cross Country Team also made a contribution to Merrill's Homecoming the week prior.

"On Friday, Oct. 1, the Merrill Cross Country team ran the Homecoming football from Lakeland Union High School (LUHS) in Minocqua to Merrill. The Merrill High School Cross Country Team came together to rush the football 44,180 yards before the start of the Homecoming assembly. The team took a bus to Lakeland, leaving Merrill at 7:30 a.m. The team arrived at LUHS and ran Merrill's Homecoming ball around Lakeland's field. Because LUHS is 48 miles away from Merrill, the team then drove to Tomahawk and started a 23-mile run to Merrill High School. Each athlete had to run at least one mile while holding the Homecoming ball. However, most athletes ran with the ball for 3-8 miles. The runners had a police escort (for safety) and a bus carrying the team while they ran on Hwy. 107 to J and onto



Merrill's Madi Crossman is the first of the Merrill ladies to cross the finish line for Merrill on Saturday, Oct. 16.

Jim Richardson photo.



#659 is Merrill's David Golisch. He crossed the finish line first for the Merrill guys at the Saturday, Oct. 16, Conference meet.

Jim Richardson photo.

JJ (Pier St.). The runners ran through town on First St., took a lap around Jay Stadium, and rushed the football into the Homecoming assembly," Swan explained

"A lot of clubs and teams don't get a lot of recognition, even though we have some amazing students and athletes. This was a way to get the team more involved in Homecoming." Swan "It was a great experience and the kids had a great time!"

## Four Merrill students named to Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School Homecoming Court

Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School celebrated Homecoming nearly two weeks ago. The Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School Student Council planned a fun and engaging week for everyone with dress-up days, class contests, window decorating, a pep rally, an outdoor carnival, and a dance and bonfire to wrap up the week. Four Merrill students were elected to the Homecoming Court for 2021: Sarah Gustafson, Emily Wiesneski, Joshua



Congratulations to the Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School 2021 Homecoming Court! (left to right) Freshmen Andrew Bolin (Wausau) and Sarah Gustafson (Merrill); Sophomores Konnor Mehlberg (Junction City) & Emily Wiesneski (Merrill); Senior King Joshua Gustafson (Merrill) & Queen; Seniors Nick Taylor (Merrill) & Kaitlin Mehlberg (Junction City); Juniors Abby Madonia (Weston) & Joshua Massey (Stevens Point). [Note: Homecoming Queen's face blurred and purposely omitted.]

Submitted photo.

Gustafson, and Nick Taylor. Wisconsin Valley Lutheran is located at 601 Maple Ridge Rd. in Mosinee.

## 2021 Merrill High School Fall Sports Schedule

### Volleyball (Varsity, JV, & JV2)

Thursday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> Semi Final (Varsity) Home 7:00 pm

### Cross Country (Varsity & JV)

Saturday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> Colby (Varsity) Away 11:00 am

### Swimming (Varsity & JV)

Saturday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> Invite-UWSP (JV) Away 1:00 pm

Thursday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity) Away 5:30 pm

Please go to [www.wisconsinvalleyconference.org](http://www.wisconsinvalleyconference.org) for latest up to date playoff schedules.

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



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